

AMENDMENT
January 20, 2005

JP919980804US11
Serial No. 09/681,788

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 12 remain in the application and stand rejected. Claims 1, 5, 8, 10 and 11 are amended herein. New claims 13 – 18 are included herewith. The rejection of the claims is respectfully traversed.

The specification is objected to because at page 8, paragraph 48, “stroke” was misspelled as “stoke.” Responsive thereto, paragraph 48 is amended herein. The other amendments to the specification are to correct spelling/grammar. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 and 11 are objected to for containing informalities and Claims 5 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 for being indefinite, i.e., failing to provide antecedent basis for “the blank lines” and “the fax template.” Responsive thereto claims 1, 5, 8 and 11 are amended herein. Claim 10 is amended for formal reasons. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 1 and 11 and the rejection of claims 5 and 8 is respectfully solicited.

New claims 13 – 18 have been added and are supported in the specification by paragraphs 22 and 56. No new matter has been added. Independent consideration and allowance of new claims 13 – 18 is respectfully solicited.

Claims 9, 10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over GB 2,308,523 A to Blakeslee. Claims 1 – 4, 6 – 8 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blakeslee in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,959,260 to Hoghooghi et al. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blakeslee and

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Hoghooghi et al. further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,153,744 to Nobuta. The rejection of the claims is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claims 9, 10 and 12, it is asserted, essentially, that Blakeslee teaches the present invention as claimed. In particular it is asserted that "Blakeslee discloses selecting an area on a writing area (screen 12) of an input device (pocket-sized mobile telephone device 10) as a dialing area (display 12A); loading a program for defining the dialing area..." Regarding the rejection of claims 1 - 4, 6 - 8 and 11, it is asserted that Blakeslee substantially teaches the claimed invention. Hoghooghi et al. is relied upon solely to teach the operating function of the stylus pen. Regarding claim 5, it is asserted that "Nobuta discloses batch process (process waits for the termination of the transmission in step S420) the blank lines between non-blank lines ('Blank Line', col. 10, in. 30-34) during the encoding procedure (encoder 5D)."

Blakeslee teaches cell phones capable of inputting, transferring and receiving digital ink messages. *See, e.g.*, Abstract. As illustrated in Blakeslee Figure 2, the cell phone display is a touch sensitive display that displays different panels depending upon the particular function of the screen, e.g., a call function for an outgoing call 12A, an incoming call 12B or a telephone dialing keypad 12C. Also, as shown in Blakeslee Figure 3, the display functions as a digital ink panel to allow inputting a portion of a page, e.g., a portion of a fax page. These partial portions are assembled into a page that may be sent to a number of destinations, including fax machines 20. In each instance, regardless of the selected function, the corresponding panel occupies the entire display.

Hoghooghi et al. teaches a cell phone battery with a limited character input and display capability. *See, e.g.*, Abstract. Pen strokes on a digitizer are converted to characters and displayed on the battery. Col. 2, lines 18 - 29. The display 110 is completely separate from the digitizer 112.

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Nobuta is a fax apparatus. *See, e.g.*, Abstract. At the end of a fax transmission, the apparatus a "job flag of the execution table is rewritten from 'Termination process' to 'Blank line' and [the apparatus] enters the standby state."

Regarding the rejection of claims 9, 10 and 12, claim 9 recites "selecting an area on a writing area of an input device as a dialing area;" at line 3 with analogous recitations in claims 10 and 12. This, is described in detail in the specification in paragraph 54 paragraph 56 in the published application) at page 9, which provides that the selected area is a portion of the writing area. The writing area may be the size of a sheet of paper. *See e.g.*, paragraph 22 on pages 4 – 5 and amended hereinabove. Thus, the writing area may be much larger than the dialing area and, the dialing area may be selected anywhere within the writing area. Regardless of the size of the area that is selected as the dialing area, however, some area is selected "on a writing area of an input device as a dialing area;" as claim 9 (and 10 and 12) recites. By contrast, Blakeslee teaches selecting a panel for display; the selected panel may be a dialing panel; and the dialing panel occupies (not selects) the entire display area. When the Blakeslee dialing panel is selected, no handwritten input is displayed and the display does not function as a writing area. Thus, Blakeslee fails to teach the present invention as claimed in any of rejected claims 9, 10 and 12. Neither does Blakeslee teach or suggest that the writing area may be "a standard paper size, and said dialing area is defined as a region of (or adjacent to) a page being faxed." *See, e.g.*, claims 13 and 14. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 9, 10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Blakeslee is respectfully solicited.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1 – 4, 6 – 8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Blakeslee in combination with Hogooghi et al., the stylus, digitizer and separate small display of Hogooghi et al. adds nothing to the teaching of Blakeslee to result in the present invention as recited in claims 9, 10 and 11, much less claim 1 or claims depending therefrom. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 – 4,

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6 – 8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Blakeslee in combination with Hogooghi et al. is respectfully solicited.

Regarding the rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Blakeslee and Hogooghi et al. in further combination with Nobuta, claim 5 recites that the “format generator batch processes blank lines between non-blank lines during the encoding procedure.” This is described in the present application in detail at paragraphs 51 – 52 on pages 8 – 9 as saving encoding time. In particular as paragraph 52 recites,

Step 702 determines whether it is the end of a page. If the answer is Yes, step 706 terminates the encoding procedure. Otherwise, step 703 determine whether there are blank lines between the current line and the last line. If the answer is Yes, step 704 batch-processes the blank lines, i.e., encoding many lines at one time. Otherwise, step 705 encodes the current line.

This is quite different than waiting for the end of transmission as Nobuta recites, when a “job flag of the execution table is rewritten from ‘Termination process’ to ‘Blank line’ and [the apparatus] enters the standby state.” Neither does Nobuta add anything to the combination of Blakeslee and Hogooghi et al. to result in the present invention as recited in any of claims 1 – 4 or 6 – 12, much less claim 5. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Blakeslee and Hogooghi et al. in combination with Nobuta is respectfully solicited.

The applicants thank the Examiner for efforts both past and present in examining the application. Believing the Application in condition for allowance, both for the amendment to the claims and for the reasons set forth above, the applicants request that the Examiner consider new claims 13 – 18, reconsider and withdraw the objection to the specification and claims, reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 5 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §112 and of claims 1 – 12 under 35 U.S.C. §§102(b), 103(a) and allow the Application to issue.

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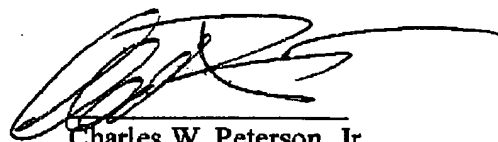
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Should the Examiner believe anything further may be required, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below for a telephonic or personal interview to discuss any other changes.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 50-0510 and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully Submitted,

January 20, 2005
(Date)


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